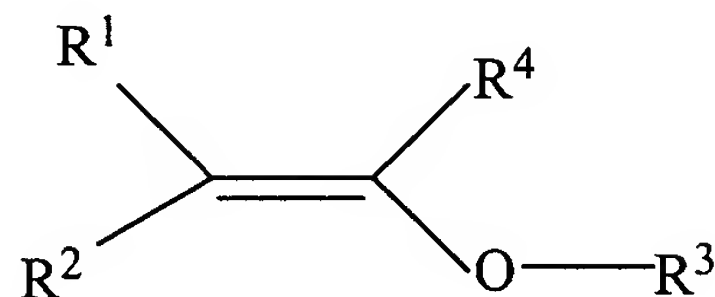


1-20. Cancelled.

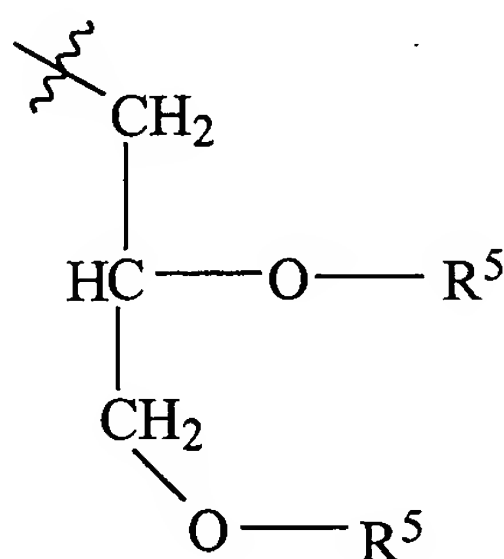
21. (New) A vinyl ether lipid compound of the formula:



wherein one of either R<sup>1</sup> or R<sup>2</sup> is a hydrophilic headgroup and the other of R<sup>1</sup> or R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen, a second hydrophilic headgroup, or a crosslinker joining at least one other molecule of the vinyl ether compound at the R<sup>1</sup> or R<sup>2</sup> position;

R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen or an electron donating group; and

R<sup>3</sup> is cholesterol, a cholesterol derivative, sphingosine, a sphingosine derivative or a group according to the formula:



wherein each R<sup>5</sup> is independently a hydrophobic group of the formula:

